

Chair Manning, Vice Chair Fowler Arthur, Ranking Member Robinson and members of the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill 445. My name is John H. Reed and I am from Lucas County.

I have been aware of and supported Life Wise Academy for the past 2 years and feel strongly about this opportunity to bring God back into public schools. I am so proud of the legislators that are backing this bill which allows parents to make moral and religious choices for their children. Both of my boys went to Sylvania Public Schools and I certainly wish we could have had this opportunity.

I am a Christian and Life Wise is a Christian based organization but I feel this Bill could be of benefit for all religions to provide the opportunity to practice their beliefs also. I attended a school board meeting where the proposal for Life Wise was addressed and I couldn't believe the hatred I heard from the opponent's side of the room. I guess I am getting tired of everyone being so sensitive and closed minded on so many situations. It seemed like they were declaring our God as the devil.

I believe our country and form of government is still the best model for other countries to strive for. It certainly isn't perfect but I wonder why the people with all this pent-up hatred came here and continue stay here if the USA is evil. This Bill is the perfect example of what has built our country over the years, it gives people the opportunity to make choices.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to advocate for House Bill 445.

Sincerely, John H. Reed